



NEWS RELEASE

DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE

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For External Release

Important information regarding Army W-2s

Indianapolis, Ind. – The Defense Finance and Accounting Service is again gearing up for tax season and is providing information to help soldiers file their calendar year 2002 taxes.

All calendar year 2002 Army W-2s will be mailed by January 31, 2003.

Before filing federal or state tax returns, soldiers should ensure they have all Forms W-2 (Wage and Tax Statement) and, if needed, Forms W-2C (Corrected Wage and Tax Statement). Soldiers should attach the original W-2 and, if needed, the W-2C to their 2002 tax return. Electronic filers (IRS “e-file”) should use the W-2C adjusted amounts when preparing their tax return. If soldiers believe their W-2 forms are not correct they should contact their servicing finance office. Separated soldiers should call Military Pay customer service, toll-free, 1-(888)-PAY-ARMY.

In addition to the W-2 for 2002 military wages, soldiers will receive an additional W-2 if they:

- Were paid for a do-it-yourself (DITY) move
- Participated in the Student Loan Repayment Program*
- Received a payment resulting from a Public Law 220 claim*
- Received a payment resulting from an Army Board of Corrections claim*

* Any of these three conditions will be combined into one additional W-2. These items will not be reflected on soldiers’ final 2002 Leave and Earnings Statements (LES).

Year-end adjustments effected by Combat Zone Tax Exclusion entitlements may not appear on the December LES. For these reasons, soldiers should not use their December end of month LES to file taxes.

Active duty soldiers’ W-2s will be sent to Defense Military Pay Offices and Finance Offices for distribution. Army National Guard military pay and Student Loan Repayment Plan W-2s will be sent to the United States Property and Fiscal Offices for distribution. The USPFO manages and accounts for federally provided funds and property. W-2s for Army Reserve soldiers and separated active duty soldiers will be mailed to their address of record.

For assistance with Army pay or W-2 problems, soldiers should contact their servicing finance office. If they cannot assist, soldiers should call the Army Military Pay Office customer service hotline at 1-(888)-PAY-ARMY.

About DFAS

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service is the world's largest finance and accounting operation. DFAS is "Your Financial Partner @ Work" for the Department of Defense. The agency disburses more than \$1.2 billion dollars per business day. Annually, DFAS pays 5.5 million military members, civilian personnel, retirees and annuitants; processes more than 11 million contractor and vendor invoices, and handles nearly 7 million travel payments. The Secretary of Defense created the Defense Finance and Accounting Service in 1991 to reduce the cost of Defense Department finance and accounting operations and strengthen financial management through consolidating finance and accounting activities across the department. For more about the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, please visit <http://www.dfas.mil>.

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For more information, please call Cathy Ferguson, 703-607-2716